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Claims

1. An isolated mammalian sodium channel protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ I.D.NO.2 or a variant thereof.
2. A sodium channel protein or variant thereof according to claim 1 for use in a method of screening for agents with analgesic or anti-hypersensitivity activity.
3. A nucleotide sequence, e.g. DNA, encoding the sodium channel protein or variant thereof according to claim 1.
4. An isolated nucleotide sequence according to claim 3 wherein the sequence is as shown in SEQ.I.D.NO:1.
5. An isolated nucleotide sequence that hybridises to any part of a nucleotide sequence referred to in either claim 3 or 4.
6. A recombinant polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence as defined in one or more of SEQ.I.D.NO: 3 to 17 or a variant thereof.
7. A recombinant polynucleotide comprising a sequence which comprises the sequences as defined in each of SEQ.I.D.NO:3 to 17 wherein ascending numerical order represents the order in which the SEQ.I.D. is read in the 5' to 3' direction.
8. An isolated amino acid sequence encoded for by the sequence of claim 6 or 7.
9. An isolated sodium channel derivable from the dorsal root ganglion of a mammal e.g. rat or human which has an IC₅₀ for TTX of about 1μM.
10. A protein comprising a primary amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity with the sequence defined in SEQ.I.D.NO:2.
11. A vector, e.g. plasmid, comprising a nucleotide sequence according to any one of claims 3 to 7.
12. A host cell transfected with a vector according to claim 11.
13. An antibody or fragment thereof which recognises and binds to a sodium channel or a variant thereof according to claim 1.
14. A method for the identification of a modulator of a sodium channel according to claim 1 or variant thereof comprising contacting said channel with a test compound and detecting activity or inactivity of said channel.

A method of assaying test compounds which modulate sodium flux comprising expressing a protein or variant thereof according to claim 1 in a host cell; contacting said protein with a test compound; and measuring sodium flux.

16. A modulator of a protein or variant thereof as defined in claim 1 or 10.
17. A medicament comprising the modulator according to claim 16.
18. Use of a modulator according to claim 16 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain or hypersensitivity.
19. A method of treatment which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a medicament according to claim 17.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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PCT

REC'D 07 JUL 2000

WIPO PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3432/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/GB99/00838	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/03/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 18/03/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C12N15/12		
Applicant GLAXO GROUP LIMITED et al.		
1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.		
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application		

Date of submission of the demand 22/09/1999	Date of completion of this report 16/07/2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority: European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Perez, C Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2484



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

Description, pages:

1-35 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-19 as received on 31/05/2000 with letter of 30/05/2000

Drawings, sheets:

1/12-12/12 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages:
 the claims, Nos.:
 the drawings, sheets:

3. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

see separate sheet

II. Priority

1. This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the failure to furnish within the prescribed time limit the requested:

copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed.
 translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed.

2. This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

been found invalid.

Thus for the purposes of this report, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

see separate sheet

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- the entire international application.
- claims Nos. 17-19.

because:

- the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 17-19 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
see separate sheet
- the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. .

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-16
	No:	Claims 4, 8
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-16
	No:	Claims 4, 8

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-16
No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

1. Additional remark to item I (basis of opinion)

A "Sequence Listing" has been filed with the present application. This "Sequence Listing" comprises SEQ ID N°1 to SEQ N°35 (p.1-36).

Furthermore, the attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that the amended set of claims, sent with his letter dated 30.05.2000, meet the requirements of Article 34 (2) (b) and Rule 70.2 (c) PCT. Thus, the present international preliminary examination report is based on the amended set of claims.

2. Additional remark to item II (priority, Article 8 PCT)

The attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact, that the right of priority in the sense of Article 8 PCT, covers only those elements included in the priority document or derived, directly and unambiguously, from the disclosure in said priority document (see PCT Gazette, 29.10.1998, "Guidelines concerning PCT international preliminary examination", Section IV, Chapter V-2.4). Actually, the IPEA considers, that the following products claimed in the present application, do not have a basis in the application, whose priority is claimed:

- the recombinant polynucleotides comprising at least one of the sequences identified as SEQ ID N°3 to 17 (new claims 8-9). Actually, said sequences were not filed with the claimed priority document.

- an isolated sodium channel whose amino acid sequence is at least 70 % identical to SEQ ID N°2 and which exhibits an IC₅₀ for TTX of about 1 µM (new claim 4). Actually, the IPEA considers that such variants having said activity are not directly and unambiguously disclosed in the document whose priority.

Thus, the priority date is considered to be invalid for claims 4 and 8-9.

Furthermore, the attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that, since the priority right can not be acknowledged, the P-documents cited in the international search report, can be considered as prior art documents, when assessing the novelty and inventiveness of claims 4 and 8-9. Consequently, claim 4 is not novel in view of the said P-documents (see § 4.31 i).

3. Additional remark to item III (non-establishment of an opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability)

No opinion is established on the subject-matter of claims 17-19, because of lack of clarity: said claims are directed to a product unclearly defined as a "modulator" or the

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

use thereof. The claimed modulator, which is only characterized by its identification process, can be an infinite number of very different molecules, and may encompass known molecules which have not been characterized as displaying said modulator activity. Thus, so many molecules can fall under the scope of the claim, that no meaningful interpretation with respect to novelty and inventive step can be made (see also the International search report). Consequently, the application is further prosecuted on the basis of the invention which is clearly defined: **claims 1-16**.

4. Additional remarks to item V (reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a) (ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability)

4.1 Present application

The present application discloses voltage-gated sodium ion channel found in the small diameter subset of the sensory neurones of the mammalian dorsal root ganglion (DRG), herein denominated sensory neurone specific 2a (SNS_{2a}). In particular, it discloses the nucleic (5298 bp open reading frame) and deduced amino acid sequences (1765 AA) encoding a rat SNS_{2a} (SEQ ID N°1 and 2 respectively), and 14 nucleotide sequences comprised in the human SNS_{2a} (SEQ ID N°3 to 17). Also disclosed are an isolated sodium channel which has an IC50 for tetrodotoxin (TTX) of 1 µM, a polynucleotide comprising at least one of the sequences identified SEQ ID N°3 to 17 and a variant thereof, a vector comprising said nucleotide sequence, a host cell transfected with said vector, and an antibody or fragment thereof binding to said sodium channel. Finally, the application presents methods for the identification of a modulator of said sodium channel and for the assay of test compounds which modulate sodium flux using host cell expressing said mammalian sodium channel.

4.2 Prior art documents

The following documents are considered to be relevant for assessing the novelty and inventiveness of the claimed subject-matter:

D1: WO-A-9701577

D2: EMBL database entry, HS1244441, accession number AA446878, 1997,
Hillier et al., "WashU-Merck EST project 1997"

i) D1 discloses the molecular cloning of a cDNA encoding a rat functional TTX-insensitive voltage-gated sodium channel specifically located in mammalian sensory

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB99/00838

neurons, herein denominated rat DRG SNS-B, which exhibits a relative insensitivity to TTX: its IC₅₀ for TTX superior to 1 µM (D1: p.3, I.12-23). D1 shows the DNA and deduced amino acid sequences said DRG sodium channel (SEQ ID N°1 and 2 respectively). D1 discloses probes consisting of portions of said cDNA sequence (D1: p.23, I.22-24), vector comprising said rat DRG SNS-B cDNA such as pcDNA3, host cells transfected with said vector (D1: p.33-36, Examples 5 and 6), antibody against said sodium channel protein (D1: p.40-41, Example 11b). Finally, D1 also discloses methods for the identification of modulators of said sodium channel, which comprises contacting a test compound with said channel and detecting activity of said channel (D1: p.107, claim 15), and for the screening of modulators using cell expressing the cloned sodium channels and measuring sodium flux (D1: p.38, example 9).

- ii) D2 discloses a particular expressed sequence tag (EST) isolated from total human fetus material. It consists of 499 base pairs, whose reverse sequence displays a 94,7 % identity, in a 338 bp overlap, with the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID N°9 of the present application (using STRAND sequence analysis).

4.3 Statement with regard to novelty and inventive step (Articles 33(2)and (3) PCT)
The arguments of the applicant , given in his letter mailed on 30.05.2000 responding to our Written Opinion (mailed on 03.03.2000), were taken into consideration when establishing this report, but are considered not to be relevant for the objections presented below.

4.31 Claims 4 and 8

The subject-matter of claims 4 and 8 does not meet the requirements of Articles 33(2) and (3) PCT, because said claims lack novelty in view of D2 and/or the P-documents and/or their lack of clarity (see § 5).

- I) Since the P-documents can be considered as prior art documents, when assessing the novelty and inventiveness of claim 4 (see § 2), and since the article of Tate et al. corresponds to the publication, by the applicant, of the characterization of the sodium channel of said claim, said document is detrimental to novelty of **claim4**.
- ii) Since the EST disclosed in D2 is highly homologous to the sequence complementary to SEQ ID N°9 of the present application (see § 4.2 ii), it is considered to be capable

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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of hybridizing under stringent conditions to said nucleotide sequence. Thus, **claim 8** lacks novelty in view of D2, because of its lack of clarity (see § 5).

4.32 Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-16

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-16 meet the requirements of Articles 33 (2) and 33 (3) PCT, because said claims are novel and inventive over the available prior art. Actually, none of the available prior art documents discloses the claimed mammalian sodium channel proteins and their nucleotide sequences. Moreover, none of them is prejudicial to the inventiveness of said products and the use thereof.

5. Additional remarks to item VIII (certain observations on the international application, Article 6 PCT)

5.1 Claim 8

The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 8b is only characterized by an ability to hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence disclosed in claim 8a. However, since the wording of claim 8 does not specify to which length of the mentioned sequences the claimed polynucleotides should hybridize, the claimed matter does not exhibit any distinguishing features from the EST sequence disclosed in D2 (see § 4.31 ii).

5.2 Claim 14

The attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that a product claim defined for a particular use, such as present claim 14 ("for use in a method .."), is construed as meaning a product suitable for the stated use (see PCT Gazette, 29.10.1998, "Guidelines concerning PCT international preliminary examination", Section IV, Chapter III-4.8).

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3432/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 99/ 00838	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/03/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 18/03/1998
Applicant GLAXO GROUP LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

contained in the international application in written form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

MAMMALIAN SODIUM CHANNEL PROTEINS

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

as suggested by the applicant.

because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1

None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 99/00838

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Remark: Although claim 19
is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: 16-19 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see further information SHEET PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 16-19

Present claims 16-19 relate to a compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely the modulation of sodium flux through a SNS(2a) channel without giving a further characterization of the claimed matter. In consequence, the scope of said claims is ambiguous and, moreover, their subject-matter is vague and not sufficiently disclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB 99/00838

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

1st line deleted word "novel"

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 99/00838

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C12N15/12 C07K14/705 C07K16/28 C12N5/10 G01N33/68
A61K31/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C12N C07K G01N A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 01577 A (UNIV LONDON) 16 January 1997 (1997-01-16) page 3, line 12 - line 23 page 37, line 16 - line 20 ----	9
X	EMBL database entry HS1244441; accession number AA446878; 5-June-1997; Hillier et al.: 'WashU-Merck EST project 1997.' XP002110599 abstract ---- -/-	6-8, 10-12

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 July 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/08/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
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Authorized officer

Mandl, B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l. Appl. No.

PCT/GB 99/00838

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	DIB-HAJJ S. D. ET AL.: "NaN, a novel voltage-gated Na channel, is expressed preferentially in peripheral sensory neurons and down-regulated after axotomy." PROC. NATL. ACAD. SCI. U.S.A., vol. 95, July 1998 (1998-07), pages 8963-8968, XP002110597 the whole document ---	1-5,9-12
P,X	TATE S. ET AL.: "Two sodium channels contribute to the TTX-R sodium current in primary sensory neurons." NATURE NEUROSCIENCE, vol. 1, no. 8, December 1998 (1998-12), pages 653-655, XP002110598 the whole document -----	1-5,9-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 99/00838

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9701577 A	16-01-1997	AU	6234596 A	30-01-1997
		CA	2221294 A	16-01-1997
		EP	0835261 A	15-04-1998

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION
(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C.20231
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 November 1999 (03.11.99)
International application No. PCT/GB99/00839
International filing date (day/month/year) 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)
Applicant ROBERTS, Paul et al

Applicant's or agent's file reference
E036887PGB

Priority date (day/month/year)
26 March 1998 (26.03.98)

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
08 October 1999 (08.10.99)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Juan Cruz Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION
(PCT Rule 61.2)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 November 1999 (04.11.99)	To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Box PCT Washington, D.C.20231 ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE in its capacity as elected Office
International application No. PCT/GB99/00838	Applicant's or agent's file reference PG3432/PCT
International filing date (day/month/year) 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 18 March 1998 (18.03.98)
Applicant GROSE, David, Thomas et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
22 September 1999 (22.09.99)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Juan Cruz Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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